



CODE OF PRACTICE

C·I·T·S

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Construction Industry Theft Solutions (CITS) Code of Practice

The construction industry suffers annual plant theft losses in excess of £500 million. Items of plant and equipment in daily use on sites are becoming increasingly more valuable and complex. Although the primary target of thieves is often plant, it is not uncommon for other materials to be stolen.

The potential for theft due to intruders or malicious persons will vary from location to location or type of development. Remote locations, poor perimeter security, presence of high value plant and equipment in the open all increase the probability of theft.

A risk assessment should be made of the location in terms of the ease of access to the plant/equipment. In most instances it will be a sensible and reasonable action to ensure that access to a site of operation is restricted and that the plant and equipment is fitted with appropriate measures to deter and prevent theft

Regardless of the outcome of any risk assessment process CITS strongly recommends that:

- All contractors plant and equipment should be CESAR registered
- Where plant is to be hired out, sensible and practical hiring procedures for authentication of customers are in force and audited at regular intervals.

Risk Assessment

The area where the plant is located is key when considering the risk of theft. CITS has therefore, identified four areas where the plant and equipment could be located and under each, provided guidance of the appropriate measures that can be deployed to deter and prevent theft dependent on where the plant and equipment is located.

Area 1 - Depot

Definition

A place where plant and equipment is stored when not in use or on hire.

Area 2 - In transit

Definition

A period of transportation between depots, controlled construction site or open/exposed sites.

Area 3 - Controlled Construction Site

Definition

An area in which construction operations are taking place with

- Secured perimeter
- Active Access Control
- Secured outside of normal working hours.

Area 4 - Open/Exposed/Site

Definition

Where plant and equipment is present in an unrestricted area open to the public, e.g.

- Roadside utilities
- Rail side
- Roadside construction and maintenance sites

DEPOTS

Access to the Depot should be controlled and the level and resistance of those controls will vary according to the level of risk associated with the area that the depot is located, the value of the assets kept there and the nature of those assets in terms of their relative portability. A combination of the following theft prevention measures should be considered:

- **Physical theft prevention measures**
- **Electronic theft prevention measures**
- **Human theft prevention measures**

Physical

Site

- Locks BS standard (padlocks to be closed shackle etc)
- Bolts
- Fencing
- Razor wire
- Gating to the same height as the walls
- Grills
- Walls (at least 2.3m height)
- Chains
- Bollards
- Containers
- Depot Buildings
- Anti Ram Raid
- Anti Climb Measurers

Item

- Secure key storage
- Plant and machinery painted in corporate colours

Electronic

Site

- NSI/SSAIB Accredited Alarms
- CCTV (BS8418)
- Movement detectors linked to floodlighting
- Access control

Item

- CESAR registration of all plant and machinery

Human

- Protective positioning/parking measures
- Security guards (NSI / insurance company approved)
- Supervision
- Inspection and audit responsibilities
- Event response
- Hiring procedures for authentication of customer

IN TRANSIT

When plant & machinery is moved, there may be times when it is necessary to leave the property unattended and clearly this may create an opportunity for local thieves to take advantage of a transporter who is unfamiliar with the area and its risks. It is therefore important to consider the following theft prevention measures to minimise this risk:

- Physical theft prevention measures
- Electronic theft prevention measures
- Human theft prevention measures

Physical

Site

- Pre-plan secure parking areas for any stop-over's on route
- Ensure security of the destination during any protracted delivery period

Item

- Mechanical immobilisers
- Locks
- Chains

Electronic

Site

- See "Depot" for assessing appropriate electronic measures associated with secure parking or secure destinations

Item

- CESAR registration of all plant and machinery
- Thatcham or manufacturer approved electronic immobilisers
- Thatcham or manufacturer approved tracking systems
- Attack alarms with central station monitoring

Human

- Monitoring/Supervision
- Bona fide haulier
- Event response
- Effective route plan

CONSTRUCTION SITES

Use of plant and machinery on Construction Sites may pose an enhanced theft risk, especially where the owner of the property is not in direct control of access to the site. The risk of theft should be properly assessed relative to the controls in place and if required additional Theft Prevention Measures applied:

- Physical theft prevention measures
- Electronic theft prevention measures
- Human theft prevention measures

Physical

Site

As well as the measures suggested for "Depots" the following should be considered:

- Inner compounds / zones should be established for parking up or storage when plant and machinery is not in use
- Temporary barriers (e.g. block material)
- Natural barriers offered by the sites position (e.g. rivers, canals and other land features)

Item

The level of protective measures that are sensible will vary dependent on how secure and robust the site security and control procedures are - please see "Depot" and "Open / Exposed Sites" for consideration of further measures

Electronic

Site

- Portable monitored CCTV systems linked to appropriate flood lighting

Item

- CESAR registration of all plant and machinery
- Radio linked CCTV (with central station monitoring)
- Sensors
- Intruder detection systems

Human

The level of protective measures that are sensible will vary dependent on how secure and robust the site security and control procedures are - please see "Open / Exposed Sites" and Depot for consideration of further measures

- Hiring procedures for authentication of customer

OPEN/EXPOSED SITES

Where there is a risk that the plant or machinery will be left unattended on a site with no formalised access controls (i.e. open to the public), item based protections are critical. Even where a compound can be established with perimeter protection item based Theft Prevention Measures are considered critical to minimising the potential for theft:

- Physical theft prevention measures
- Electronic theft prevention measures
- Human theft prevention measures

Physical

Site

Where possible the measures suggested for "Construction Sites" should be considered. Where this is not feasible the following are sensible measures

- Consider short term rental of a nearby secure premises
- Maximise temporary perimeter arrangements
- Install temporary compounds or barriers to restrict easy access to plant and machinery

Item

- Thatcham or manufacturer approved mechanical and electronic immobilisers
- Plant and machinery painted in corporate colours
- Removal of small and portable items overnight to a secure place

Electronic

Site

- Portable monitored CCTV systems linked to appropriate flood lighting

Item

- CESAR registration of all plant and machinery
- Thatcham or manufacturer approved tracking systems

Human

- Control and response
- Good stewardship/husbandry
- Protective parking
- Staff incentives and penalties for good on-site security practices
- Security focus in site management

The Official CESAR Scheme **(The Construction Equipment Security & Registration Scheme)**

The CESAR Scheme is the official **Construction Equipment Security and Registration Scheme** for protecting and registering all construction & agricultural machinery in the UK and Internationally. This scheme was pioneered by PTAG (the Plant Theft Action Group) working in conjunction with the Police and the Home Office. This important scheme plays a vital role in the fight against crime and is promoted by the CEA (the Construction Equipment Association) and powered by Datatag® ID Ltd an independent company who were unanimously chosen as the preferred system provider via an extensive and thorough competitive tender process.

PTAG is a Home Office advisory group reporting to the Government Vehicle Crime Reduction Strategy team and attempts to reduce the impact of theft that organised criminal networks have on the Construction Industry and the official CESAR Scheme has been designed specifically to give the Police the advantage when trying to identify suspect or stolen machinery.

The CESAR system acts as a powerful theft deterrent and each item of machinery registered and protected by a CESAR system will be permanently fitted with at least two unique and highly visible triangular identification numbers that are tamper evident and also include a number of security and anti-clone features and even contains a unique and secure transponder or "tag".

The CESAR system also incorporates other state of the art identification technology to defeat the criminals even if they attempt to remove or change a machines original identification or try and remove the CESAR numbers;

- Every official CESAR system comes with a number of miniature & unique transponders or "tags" permanently hidden within a machine and these secure transponders can be easily identified by special readers already provided to UK Police forces.
- The CESAR system uses microdot technology where literally hundreds of microscopic dots containing a unique code are applied covertly within the machine and protect all of the valuable parts and are virtually impossible to find and remove.
- Finally, each CESAR system also contains a unique Forensic "DNA" solution for each machine which is invisible to the naked eye and is applied through out the machine. A thief would have to be 100% confident of removing every last molecule of Datatag DNA to remove a machines true identity.

As well as the above identification technology, the CESAR system also provides the following benefits;

- Each machine and CESAR system is permanently registered on a secure Home Office and ACPO CPI accredited database which is accessible 24/7 for Police and Customer enquiries.

- If a machine is not road registered? then all appropriate Plant and Equipment i.e. self propelled will be registered on the DVLA's Off Road Register FREE of CHARGE allowing Police instant access to the Police National Computer (PNC) and registered keeper files.
- The official CESAR Scheme does NOT operate or insist upon any reward scheme or "bounty fee" for assisting to find and identify stolen Plant or Equipment unlike other registration schemes.
- Major Insurance companies offer attractive premium discounts for security conscious companies who register their machinery with the CESAR Scheme providing savings year after year.
- Many leading customer focused machinery manufactures now fit the CESAR system as standard and at no cost to the customer.
- Local authorities are now insisting on CESAR registered machinery only on their sites to promote better security and to deter would be thieves.
- Once registered there are no on going costs or monthly subscriptions and the CESAR Scheme registers a machine for life.
- For further information about the scheme please visit www.cesarscheme.org or call 08 450 700 440 for further details.